



1fw

PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/715,717	
	Filing Date	11/17/2003	
	First Named Inventor	JENNIFER TELFER	
	Art Unit	2875	
	Examiner Name	SAWHNEY, HARGOBIND S.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	14	Attorney Docket Number	2572-PAT

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual name	DONN K. HARMS	
Signature		
Date	May 24, 2006	

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING		
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.		
Typed or printed name	DONN K. HARMS	
Signature		Date 5/24/2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on 05/24/2006 as first class mail in an envelope Addressed to:

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P. O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

DONN K. HARMS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: TELFER

EXAMINER: SAWHNEY, H.

Serial Number 10/715,717

Group Art Unit: 2875

Filing Date: 11/17/2003

For: DECORATIVE STRING LIGHTS

Hon. Commissioner of Patents

Initial Comments begin on page **2** of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the complete listing of claims which begins on page **4** of this paper.

FINAL REMARKS begin on page **13** of this paper.

COMMENTS

The Examiner has indicated that claim 4 was allowable as the prior art did not teach or suggest at least one substantially transparent or translucent socket assembly surrounded by a transparent or substantially translucent casing attached to the socket as recited in claim 4. The elements of claim 4 of the substantially transparent or translucent casing surrounding the socket engaged to a wire have been added to claim 1, and claim 4 canceled. With the allowable elements of claim 4 added to claim 1, claim 1 should now be allowable and any remaining claims dependant on claim 1 should now be allowable.

The Examiner has indicated that claim 9 was allowable as the prior art did not teach or suggest at least one substantially transparent or translucent socket assembly surrounded by a transparent or substantially translucent casing attached to the socket as recited in claim 9. The elements of claim 9 of the substantially transparent or translucent casing surrounding the socket engaged to a wire have been added to claim 8 and claim 9 canceled. As such, claim 8 should now be allowable and all remaining claims dependant on claim 8 should now be allowable.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 18 and 20 were allowable as having a locking plug engaged through the bottom of the socket assembly. Claims 18 and 20 also depend from newly amended claim 8 which has the added elements of former claim 9. As such, claims 18 and 20 should continue to be allowable.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 12 and 23 were allowable as having a current-flow interrupting means that was unique and not taught or suggested by the prior art. Claims 12 and 23 also respectively depend now from amended claims 1 and 8, which as noted should now be allowable. As such claims 22 and 23 should still be allowable.